MIDTERM REVIEW GUIDE

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS STORY QUESTIONS

***Choose the BEST answers to demonstrate your mastery of the main ideas in the story.***

**#1 Aeneas Arrives in Italy**

\_\_\_\_ 1. In what area of the ancient world was Troy located?     a. Italy    b. Asia Minor   c. Greece

\_\_\_\_ 2. Who was the king of Troy?        a. Priam   b. Latinus   c. Aeneas

\_\_\_\_ 3. After he had gathered his friends and comrades together, what decision did Aeneas make?

a. to make peace with the Greeks      b. to go to Italy   c. to try to rebuild Troy

\_\_\_\_ 4. Why were Latinus and his people preparing to defend their lands?

a. The Trojans were advancing on their city   b. The Trojans were stealing their cattle

c. The Trojans were attacking them

\_\_\_\_ 5. What did Latinus NOT do when he found out Aeneas’ story?

a. He made peace with Aeneas   b. He gave Aeneas his daughter to marry

c. He gave Aeneas land for a new city

\_\_\_\_ 6. Why did Turnus attack Latinus and the Trojans?

a. He was upset about Lavinia marrying Aeneas   b. He thought the Trojans were attacking him

c. He wanted to conquer Aeneas before he could found a new city

\_\_\_\_ 7. Which leader was killed in the first battle between the Rutuli and the Trojans?

a. Latinus   b. Turnus   c. Aeneas

\_\_\_\_ 8. Why were the Etruscans happy to join forces with Turnus?

a. they also feared the new city

b. Turnus convinced them that  the new city would soon be  more famous than the  Etruscans themselves

c. Latinus had offended them by making an alliance with Aeneas

\_\_\_\_ 9. What did Aeneas do to create unity between his people and Latinus’ people?

a. he gave them a common name     b. he arranged a series of strategic marriages

c. he had them swear blood oaths of loyalty

\_\_\_\_ 10. Why was Aeneas’ decision to lead his troops out to meet the Etruscans a potentially reckless move?

a. his troops were not as wellarmed  as their enemy

b. the terrain was difficult to  navigate and the Etruscans knew it better

c. he could have stayed within the well-fortified city walls

**#2 The Founding of Alba Longa**

\_\_\_\_ 1. Why did Ascanius found Alba Longa?

a. he wished to emulate his father by founding his own city       b. because Lavinium was growing so large

c. Lavinium needed a sister city for trading and commerce

\_\_\_\_ 2. What did Lavinia do when Ascanius founded Alba Longa?

a. she went with him to help him establish the new government

b. she retired from public life and lived quietly until her death

c. she continued to rule Lavinium

\_\_\_\_ 3. Who was Proca?

a. the brother of Numitor  b. a king who usurped the throne by expelling his brother from the kingdom

c. the grandfather of Rhea Silvia

\_\_\_\_ 4. Why was Numitor the rightful king of Alba Longa?

a. he was the older brother  b. he had a document establishing his claim to the throne

c. his father had been king the longest

\_\_\_\_ 5. What did Amulius NOT do in his efforts to gain power?

a. killed his nephew   b. exiled his brother   c. murdered everyone in his brother’s family   
 

**#3 Romulus and Remus**

\_\_\_\_ 1. How did the wolf find the boys?

a. she saw the basket on the shore  b. she heard them crying  c. she smelled them

\_\_\_\_ 2. Who raised Romulus and Remus?

a. Faustulus and his wife   b. Numitor and Rhea Silvia   c. the she-wolf

\_\_\_\_3. What did Romulus and Remus do as soon as they were able to hunt?

a. they began to rob local hunting groups who were out in the woods

b. they stole booty from robbers and redistributed it to the local shepherds

c. they tracked and killed Amulius

\_\_\_\_ 4. What did the robbers accuse Remus of?

a. stealing from the other shepherds  b. stealing from them  c. stealing from Numitor

\_\_\_\_ 5. Why was Remus’ punishment left to Numitor?

a. it was his property that had allegedly been stolen

b. although exiled, he was still responsible for dispensing justice in the kingdom

c. no one else wanted to do it

\_\_\_\_6. Why does Faustulus reveal Romulus’ true identity?

a. he thinks the king needs to know that the boys were not killed when they were exposed at birth

b. he wants to be sure Romulus knows what his relationship with Numitor is

c. he is concerned about the danger Remus is in

\_\_\_\_ 7. What is NOT an indicator to Numitor that Remus is his grandson?

a. his age   b. his appearance   c. his regal bearing

\_\_\_\_ 8. How do Romulus and Remus conquer Amulius?

a. they each prepare a band of men and attack the king

b. Romulus’ band of men infiltrates the palace, freeing Remus and his men, and together they drive the king

out of the kingdom

c. Romulus and Remus prepare a trick to get Amulius to come into the forest alone, then a band of their men attacks him

\_\_\_\_ 9. What do Romulus & Remus decide to do after Numitor is restored to the throne?

a. continue living as outlaws in the wildnerness and robbing the robbers

b. help Numitor rule  c. establish a city in the places where they were exposed and raised

**#4 The Founding of Rome**

\_\_\_\_ 1. Why did Romulus and Remus agree to use auguries to settle a question?

a. it seemed like the most fair solution

b. because they were twins, they could not determine who was older

c. because they did not yet have an official legal system to settle disputes, they needed to use auguries

\_\_\_\_ 2. Why did Remus believe his augury had more validity than Romulus’?

a. the birds flew closer to him   b. he saw the greater number of birds

c. he saw the birds first

\_\_\_\_ 3. What happened when the twins disagreed about how to interpret the bird omens?

a. they agreed to consult auguries in a different way

b. they each claimed the throne   c. Remus mocked Romulus, who then killed him

\_\_\_\_ 4. What offended Romulus the most about his brother’s actions?

a. how cruelly Remus spoke to him  b. Remus’ impiety towards the gods

c. the disrespect that Remus displayed

\_\_\_\_ 5. What was significant about the Palatine hill?

a. there was a temple to Jupiter there  b. Romulus had been abandoned there

c. Romulus grew up there

\_\_\_\_ 6. What was the purpose of calling everyone to a meeting?

a. to announce the opening of a political asylum on the Capitoline b. to hand out togas    c. to lay down laws 

\_\_\_\_ 7. Which was NOT an emblem of power adopted by Romulus?

a. using the name “patres” for “senatores”  b. the 12 lictors   c. the bordered toga

\_\_\_\_ 8. What happened after Romulus opened up the Capitoline as a refuge?

a. many people came there b. the lictors summoned everyone to a meeting there

c. the senators voted to allow people to gather there without consequences

\_\_\_\_ 9. Romulus took action in several areas of government. Which of these was NOT one of his

immediate concerns?

a. identifying specific symbols of power  b. providing food and housing to immigrants

c. setting up a legal system

\_\_\_ 10. Why did Romulus call the senators “patres”?

a. as an honorific term  b. to give them a more generic name, so that their power would not be resented

c. to distinguish them from the masses

**#5 The Sabine Women**

\_\_\_\_ 1. What is one thing that was NOT an obstacle for the Romans in finding wives?

a. alliances with neighboring cities  b. the right of intermarriage with neighboring cities

c. a lack of neighboring cities from whom to acquire women

\_\_\_\_ 2. Why were the Roman ambassadors treated poorly wherever they went?

a. they did not know the protocols for being ambassadors and they embarrassed themselves

b. the other cities feared Rome c. rumors of the violent nature of the Romans had preceded their arrival

\_\_\_\_ 3. What did Romulus decide to do when diplomatic channels got him nowhere?

a. to try a different group of ambassadors

b. to use force   c. to attack the other cities and enslave the women

\_\_\_\_ 4. What ruse do the Romans devise?

a. they invite their neighbors to come and see the new buildings in the Roman Forum

b. they hold a feast on an important religious holiday and invite their neighbors

c. they plan elaborate games and invite their neighbors

\_\_\_\_ 5. On what does Romulus blame the kidnapping of the Sabine women?

a. the animalistic nature of his people  b. their refusal to form marriage alliances with the Romans

c. the arrogance of their parents

\_\_\_\_ 6. After the Sabine women are kidnapped, what do their families do?

a. they start a war against the Romans

b. they send ambassadors to Rome to grant the Romans conubium

c. they try to get Romulus to give the women back

\_\_\_\_ 7. Where is the battle happening when the Sabine women, now Roman wives, intervene?

a. on the Capitoline hill b. just outside the city walls c. in the Sabine fortress

\_\_\_\_ 8. How do the Sabine women stop the battle?

a. they threaten to slay their children if the men do not cease fighting at once

b. they stand in the midst of the flying weapons and beg the men to stop fighting

c. they run up to their fathers and husbands and try to wrest away their weapons

\_\_\_\_ 9. What is the outcome of this war?

a. the Sabines finally agree to grant conubium to the Romans and the two cities co-exist peacefully

b. the Romans conquer the Sabines and enslave them

c. the Romans and Sabines become a single nation

\_\_\_\_ 10. What does Romulus do to create unity between the Sabines and Romans?

a. he establishes new laws that guarantee fair treatment and citizenship rights to everyone

b. he gives them a common name

c. he sets up a single government with equal representation of both sides   
   
 

**#6 Numa Pompilius**

\_\_\_\_ 1. After Romulus’ death, what conflict arose?

a. how the new king should be appointed and the terms of succession preserved

b. from which political faction the king should be chosen

c. whether a monarchy or a democratic government should be used

\_\_\_\_ 2. Why were the Romans opposed to a Sabine candidate?

a. they still resented the Sabines for their refusal to allow them a right of inter-marriage

b. they didn’t want a foreigner to be king  c. they didn’t trust the Sabines

\_\_\_\_ 3. Why were the plebians so upset during the interregnum?

a. they didn’t get a say in who should be king next

b. they felt like they had many masters instead of just one

c. they didn’t like the political instability and uncertainty

\_\_\_\_ 4. In what area of law was Numa NOT well-versed? a. divine  b. human  c. none

\_\_\_\_ 5. Why did Numa build the arch of Janus?

a. to commemorate times of peace b. to demonstrate how many states had peace treaties with Rome

c. to have a grand entrance to the Forum

\_\_\_\_ 6. What strategy did Numa use to get his people focused on religion?

a. he added more holidays and festivals to the religious calendar

b. he pretended that his decisions regarding religious matters were divinely inspired

c. he proposed new laws that made it a crime to violate religious rules

\_\_\_\_ 7. What was NOT a contribution made by Numa to Roman society?

a. the modification of the calendar

b. the creation of religious holidays on which no public business could be transacted

c. the division of the senate into three separate branches - legislative, judicial and financial

\_\_\_\_ 8. What effect did Numa’s influence have on the Romans?

a. most of them began to emulate his morals and character

b. they grew more interested in diplomatic solutions in dealing with enemies

c. they began to study law and religion more seriously

\_\_\_\_ 9. Why were neighboring states reluctant to go to war with the Romans?

a. the new peace treaties stopped them

b. the piety of the Romans deterred them

c. in addition to his focus on religion and moral character, Numa had also trained the army in a new style of warfare that frightened the neighboring states

\_\_\_\_ 10. Although Romulus used his skills in war, and Numa his skills in peace, the two kings achieved the same objective. What was it?

a. to increase the Roman state   b. to create alliances with neighboring peoples

c. to educate and train

**#7 Tullus Hostilius**

\_\_\_\_ 1. Why did Tullus Hostilius seek reasons for war?

Why did

a. he was a cruel and vicious man

b. it was important for Rome to maintain its reputation as a dominant military power

c. the Romans seemed to be getting lazy

\_\_\_\_ 2. Why did the Albans appoint Mettius Fufetius dictator?

a. they had invaded Roman territory and now needed a new strategy

b. their king died  c. they were losing their war against the Romans

\_\_\_\_ 3. Why does Fufetius request a meeting with **Tullus** **Hostilius**?

a. because he doesn’t think he can maintain his siege of Roman territory, and he wants to make peace before he is beaten

b. he wants to surrender   c. to create an alliance against the Etruscans

\_\_\_\_ 4. What does Fufetius propose as a way to resolve the dispute between the Albans and Romans?

a. the drafting of a treaty and immediate terms of peace

b. a hand-to-hand combat between a few men from each army

c. reading the auguries and following the will of the gods

\_\_\_\_ 5. When the Horatii and Curiatii clash on the battlefield, what is the initial outcome?

a. all Romans wounded, 2 Albans dead  b. 2 Romans wounded, 1 Alban dead

c. 2 Romans dead, 3 Albans wounded

\_\_\_\_ 6. When Horatius looks back at his pursuers, what does he see?

a. the Albans are running together  b. the Alban closest to him falls

c. the Albans are running at intervals, with great spaces in between them

\_\_\_\_ 7. At the conclusion of the combat, what does Horatius do?

a. he raises his sword above his head and lets out a victory yell

b. he strips his opponent of his arms and weapons

c. he cries for the loss of his brothers

\_\_\_\_8. Why does the sight of Curiatius’ cloak upset the sister of Horatius?

a. it reminds her of her dead brothers

b. it has gotten all bloody and cannot be worn again

c. it belongs to her fiance, whom her brother has killed

\_\_\_\_ 9. Why does Horatius kill his sister?

a. she dishonors him by grieving for his enemy

b. his father orders him to   c. because she has fallen in love with the enemy

\_\_\_\_ 10. Why does the king allegedly get struck by lightning?

a. because he angered Jupiter   b. because he was unable to save his city from the plague

c. because he did a sacrifice incorrectly

**#8 Ancus Marcius**

\_\_\_\_ 1. Where Numa had established religion, Ancus established \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. military victories  b. ceremonies   c. folktales

\_\_\_\_2. The Janiculum connected to Rome by means of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. prison  b. bridge  c. tunnel

\_\_\_\_ 3. The Roman reader who reads this story at the time the author wrote it will recognize which landmark that still exists in Rome? a. the bridge   b. the jail   c. the senate house

\_\_\_\_4. What nationality was Lucumo? a. Alban b. Roman c. Etruscan

\_\_\_\_ 5. Why was Lucumo’s father disgraced?

a. he was an exile   b. he had no money  c. his wife had committed adultery

\_\_\_\_6. Why did Tanaquil come up with a plan to move to Rome?

a. she was tired of being treated poorly b. she had great political ambitions for her husband

c. she wanted a change of scenery

\_\_\_\_ 7. What happened on their journey that convinced Tanaquil that they would be very powerful in the future?

a. a flash of lightning struck a tree near their wagon

b. they caught sight of a twoheaded snake

c. an eagle took Lucomo’s hat and put it back on his head 

\_\_\_\_ 8. What piece of information does the author give us to reinforce the omen’s significance?

a. Etruscans are very skilled at reading omens b. the Etruscans are favorites of the gods

c. Tanaquil is a specially trained magician

\_\_\_\_ 9. After they arrived in Rome, how did Lucumo distinguish himself?

a. he became a famous general  b. he was politically active in the Senate

c. he became wealthy

\_\_\_\_ 10. Because of his friendship with the king, Lucumo was designated as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the king’s children.  a. tutor   b. adoptive father   c. guardian